

NEWS RELEASE

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Safe travel tips for the holidays

Richland, Wash.: Today's icy roads should serve as a wake up call for local residents traveling by car to neighboring towns and states over the holidays. Travelers need to be prepared for hazardous travel conditions.

Here are a few trips that can make your trip safer and more enjoyable:

- Make sure your car is equipped for winter driving conditions,
- Check road and weather conditions before you leave and along the way,
- Let friends or relatives know what route you are taking and your intended arrival time. If delayed for any reason, notify them as soon as possible.
- Obey posted warning signs regarding traction tires and/or chains, and,
- Be prepared for breakdowns or emergencies by taking along food, water, tools, warm clothing and other gear in a roadside emergency kit.

Washington weather and road conditions are available by calling 5-1-1 or on the Internet at www.wsdot.wa.gov/travel. Information for Oregon can be accessed by calling (503) 588-2941 (511 while in Oregon) or at www.tripcheck.com on the Internet. Travelers can check condition in Idaho by calling (888) 432-7623 or going to <http://511.idaho.gov/> on the Internet.

Plan ahead to make this a safe an enjoyable and safe holiday season.

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